

Testimony of  
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**Sprague Educator**

Before the  
Education Committee

March 15, 2023

Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 6884. This bill takes important steps toward addressing the educator shortage in Connecticut, showing educators that theirs is a respected profession, and ensuring that our classrooms and schools can provide the best possible education for our students.

As a veteran teacher I can't urge you enough to support our schools and teachers. Children deserve more than what they're getting now- teachers that are burnt out and leaving the profession in record numbers, lack of funding for basic school supplies, deteriorating buildings that use up local money and resources to keep running, as well as a lack of resources to address mental health issues. A teacher's job doesn't end when the workday clock says it's time- we work every night, weekend and summer. Your support is needed to provide a quality education for students and to retain those trained and qualified to do it.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

